

Remarks

I. Support for Amendments

The foregoing amendments to the claims, cancelling claims 30-54 and rewriting all claims, are sought to be entered at the Examiner's request in the Communication dated March 29, 2001. Support for these new claims may be found in the claims as originally filed, and in the specification as discussed in the February 27, 2001, reply at page 8, section I. Hence, no new matter is added by these amendments, and their entry is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 55-79 are pending, with claims 55 and 71 being the independent claims.

Applicants reiterate and incorporate by reference herein the comments made in the February 27, 2001, reply in response to the various rejections contained in the Office Action dated November 11, 2000 (Paper No. 16). Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner apply the comments made in the February 27, 2001, reply to the new claims contained herein as they would have been applied to the corresponding (and now-cancelled) claims referred to in the comments.

Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the Office Action dated November 11, 2000, and the Communication dated March 29, 2001, and as such, that the present application is in condition for immediate allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt entry and favorable consideration of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and allowance of all pending claims, are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 30-54.

New claims 55-79, which correspond to cancelled claims 30-54, are sought to be entered.